

three groups. Figure 10 shows the teen pregnancy rate (reported pregnancies per 1,000 female population for ages 15–19), broken out by the three race/ethnicity groups. While the American Indian teen pregnancy rate slightly exceeded that of African Americans, their pregnancy rate was almost twice the rate of white girls.

Understanding the Data

In most instances the data presented for American Indians, African Americans, and whites in this report exclude Hispanics and Latinos. Hispanic is considered an ethnicity, not a race, and Hispanics are often included in the white racial category. Removing Hispanics/Latinos from the racial groups allows for a more accurate portrayal of health disparities by race³ (for data on persons of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity, see the report "North Carolina Minority Health Facts: Hispanics/Latinos").

Some of the rates presented in this fact sheet are age-adjusted. This is a statistical technique for calculating rates or percentages for different populations as if they all had the age distribution of a "standard" population (in this publication, the 2000 United States population). Rates adjusted to the same standard population can be directly





